

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS  
NORTHERN DIVISION**

CHANDRA LYONS,  
ADC #704518

PLAINTIFF

v.

1:14CV00134-DPM-JTK

MECHELLE JONES, Inmate,  
McPherson Unit

DEFENDANT

**PROPOSED FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

The following recommended disposition has been sent to United States District Judge D. P. Marshall Jr. Any party may serve and file written objections to this recommendation. Objections should be specific and should include the factual or legal basis for the objection. If the objection is to a factual finding, specifically identify that finding and the evidence that supports your objection. An original and one copy of your objections must be received in the office of the United States District Court Clerk no later than fourteen (14) days from the date of the findings and recommendations. The copy will be furnished to the opposing party. Failure to file timely objections may result in a waiver of the right to appeal questions of fact.

If you are objecting to the recommendation and also desire to submit new, different, or additional evidence, and to have a hearing for this purpose before the District Judge, you must, at the same time that you file your written objections, include the following:

1. Why the record made before the Magistrate Judge is inadequate.
2. Why the evidence proffered at the hearing (if such a hearing is granted) was not offered at the hearing before the Magistrate Judge.

3. The detail of any testimony desired to be introduced at the new hearing in the form of an offer of proof, and a copy, or the original, of any documentary or other non-testimonial evidence desired to be introduced at the new hearing.

From this submission, the District Judge will determine the necessity for an additional evidentiary hearing.

Mail your objections and “Statement of Necessity” to:

Clerk, United States District Court  
Eastern District of Arkansas  
600 West Capitol Avenue, Suite A149  
Little Rock, AR 72201-3325

### **DISPOSITION**

#### **I. INTRODUCTION**

Plaintiff Chandra Lyons, a state inmate proceeding pro se, filed this civil rights action pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983, together with a Motion to Proceed In Forma Pauperis pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915 (Doc. No. 1). Although Plaintiff submitted a declaration that makes the showing required by § 1915(a), her Motion should be denied.

#### **II. SCREENING**

The Court is required to screen complaints seeking relief against a governmental entity or officer or employee of a governmental entity. 28 U.S.C. §1915A(a). Additionally, the Prison Litigation Reform Act (PLRA), 28 U.S.C. § 1915(g), provides that:

[i]n no event shall a prisoner bring a civil action or appeal a judgment in a civil action or proceeding under this section if the prisoner has, on three (3) or more prior occasions, while incarcerated or detained in any facility, brought an action or appeal in a court of the United States that was dismissed on the grounds that it is frivolous, malicious, or fails to state a claim upon which relief may be granted, unless the prisoner is under imminent danger of serious physical injury.

Plaintiff has had at least three complaints dismissed as frivolous and for failure to state a claim,<sup>1</sup> and is considered a “three-striker” within the meaning of the PLRA. Plaintiff may, however, be permitted to proceed in forma pauperis if she falls under the “imminent danger” exception to the three strikes rule set forth above. 28 U.S.C. §1915(g). This exception does not apply to allegations of past danger, and the alleged harm must be “real and proximate” and occurring at the time the complaint is filed. Lewis v. Sullivan, 279 F.3d 526, 531 (7th Cir. 2002).

In this particular case, while Plaintiff alleges Defendant has harassed and threatened her, she does not allege imminent danger of harm. In addition, Plaintiff cannot pursue a § 1983 claim against Defendant, because she is a private individual and not considered a “state actor” within the meaning of the statute. See Griffin-El v. MCI Telecommunications Corp., et al., 835 F.Supp. 1114, 1118 (E.D.MO 1993), where the court noted that in order to state a claim for relief under § 1983, one must allege that a person acting under the color of state law deprived the plaintiff of some Constitutional right.

The Court finds that Plaintiff’s allegations are insufficient to support a finding that she is in imminent danger of serious physical injury, as provided in the statute, and that she should be required to pay the filing fee in order to prosecute this action.

### **III. CONCLUSION**

IT IS, THEREFORE, RECOMMENDED that:

1. Plaintiff Lyons’ Motion to Proceed In Forma Pauperis (Doc. No. 1) be DENIED.
2. Should Plaintiff wish to continue this case, she be required to submit the statutory

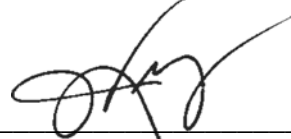
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<sup>1</sup> See Lyons v. McDonald, 5:96cv00369-GH, dismissed for failure to state a claim; Lyons v. Anderson, 5:96cv00463-SWW, dismissed for failure to state a claim; and Lyons v. Thompson, 5:96cv00547-SMR, dismissed for failure to state a claim.

filing fee of \$400.00<sup>2</sup> to the Clerk, noting the above case style and number within ten (10) days of the date of this Order, together with a motion to reopen the case. Upon receipt of the motion and full payment, the case will be reopened.

3. Plaintiff's Complaint be DISMISSED without prejudice.

IT IS SO RECOMMENDED this 31<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2014.



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JEROME T. KEARNEY  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

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<sup>2</sup>Effective May 1, 2013, the cost for filing a new civil case increased to \$400, due to the implementation of a new \$50 administrative fee.